

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Ralf Brederlow et al.

Serial No.: 10/562,458

Filed: June 29, 2006

Docket No.: I432.128,101/P31912

Title: ELECTRONIC COMPONENT WITH ID TAGS

REMARKS

The following remarks are made in response to the Non-Final Office Action mailed April 1, 2008. Claims 12-31 were rejected. With this Response, no claims have been amended. Claims 12-31 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to Figures 2, 5, and 6 for failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. 1.84(p)(5) because they do not including reference signs mentioned in the description. Applicants have amended the figures to correct these informalities. Applicants have submitted Replacement Sheets. Applicants believe the figures are now in condition for allowance.

Applicant has also amended the specification to correct the inconsistencies between the specification and the Figures, including amending the specification to reference Figure 5 as Figures 5A-5E. Applicant has submitted a clean Substitute Specification and a Substitute Specification with Markings to reflect these changes.

Objection to the Specification

The Examiner objected to the specification because the paragraphs beginning at page 5, line 27 and page 6, line 10 appear to be duplicative of the immediately preceding paragraph. Applicants respectfully disagree and note that while the paragraphs share a fair amount of similarities, they are not identical and each includes at least some differences. Applicants thus believe the specification is now in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 12-15, 17-20, 22-26, 28-30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Baude et al. U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0119504 in view of the Kaiser et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,870,031. The Examiner rejected claims 16 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Baude et al. U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0119504 in view of the Kaiser et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,870,031 and further in view of the

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Seal U.S. Patent No. 6,693,511. Also, The Examiner rejected claims 21 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Baude et al. U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0119504 in view of the Kaiser et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,870,031 and further in view of the Bayron et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,769,051. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claim 1 is an electronic component operable with an AC voltage. The electric component includes at least one input, at least one output and a pair of functionally identical electronic sub-components. The at least one input of the electronic sub-component is connected to a respective input of the two functionally identical electronic sub-components. The at least one output of the electronic component is connected to a respective output of the two functionally identical electronic sub-components. The electronic component is configured such that at the at least one output only one output signal of a first sub-component of the pair of functionally identical electronic sub-components can be picked up during a first half-wave of an AC voltage, and only one output signal of the second sub-component of the pair of functionally identical electronic sub-components can be picked up during a second half-wave of the AC voltage.

As such, the electronic sub-components are driven by the first half-wave and the second half-wave, respectively. In this way, a rectifier, which converts an AC-voltage into a DC-voltage, is not necessary in this case. This is not taught or suggested in the art of record.

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner admits that the feature that at the at least one output only one output signal of a first sub-component of the pair of functionally identical electronic sub-components can be picked up during a first half-wave of an AC voltage, whereas only one output signal of the second sub-component of the pair of functionally identical electronic sub-components can be picked up during a second half-wave of the AC voltage, is not disclosed by the Baude reference. The Baude reference merely discloses a ring oscillator circuit in Fig. 6. There, AC-powered inverter stages are used. But in that case, the whole wave of the AC-voltage is applied on the inverter stages.

The Examiner cites the Kaiser reference relating to this feature. However, the Kaiser reference merely discloses a rectifier, which converts an AC-voltage into a DC-voltage. Because the electronic circuit of the Baude reference is driven by an AC-voltage, a person skilled in the art would

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not combine the AC-circuit with the rectifier of the Kaiser reference, which converts an AC-voltage into a DC-voltage.

Furthermore, using the rectifier of the Kaiser reference would lead to a conventional logic DC-circuit and therefore also the combination of the Baude reference and the Kaiser reference, which would not function in the intended way as discussed above, would not teach the electronic component operable with an AC voltage according to claim 1.

In any case, even if one integrated the rectifier of the Kaiser reference into an electronic circuit of the Baude reference, this would not lead to the electronic component according to claim 1, wherein a rectifier, which converts the AC-voltage into a DC-voltage, is not necessary. As such, claim 1 is not obvious from the Baude reference in view of the Kaiser reference. For analogue reasons, independent claim 22 is inventive in the light of the art of record, as are the dependant claims.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejections to the claims, and request allowance of these claims.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 12-31 are in form for allowance and are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 12-31 are respectfully requested.

No fees are required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16(h)(i). However, if such fees are required, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0471.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at the below-listed telephone numbers to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to Paul P. Kempf at Telephone No. (612) 767-2502, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

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